



Survivors of Homicide Grant Program FY 2019 Annual Report

Criminal Procedure Article § 11-1006(g)

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Introduction

Chapter 223 of 2014 (House Bill 355), *Criminal Procedure - Programs for Survivors of Homicide Victims*, required the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (Office) to create the Survivors of Homicide Grant (SOHG) program to help establish and expand statewide programs for survivors of homicide victims in all parts of the State of Maryland.¹ Pursuant to this Act, the programs shall: (1) serve survivors of homicide victims in all parts of the State; (2) provide or facilitate referrals to appropriate counseling, legal, mental health, and advocacy services for survivors of homicide victims including specialized support services to adult and minor survivors of homicide victims; and (3) provide a toll-free telephone number and assistance to exercise the rights to which the survivors are entitled by law.² In addition, and in accordance with § 11-1006(d) of the Criminal Procedure Article, the Office shall administer grant awards to public or private nonprofit organizations to operate programs for survivors of homicide victims.³ Money for such programs shall be provided in the annual State budget and shall be used to supplement, but not supplant, money that the programs receive from other sources.⁴ The Act also requires the Office to consult, collaborate with, and consider the recommendations of service providers to survivors of homicide victims regarding programs, policies, practices, and procedures that impact survivors of homicide victims.⁵ Furthermore, the Act shall take effect July 1, 2014. Moreover, and pursuant to § 11-1006(g) of the Criminal Procedure Article, the Office shall submit an annual report to the General Assembly as it relates to the programs for survivors of homicide victims.⁶

Chapter 58 of 2015 (House Bill 67), *General Assembly - Mandated Reports by State Agencies*, clarified that the annual report shall be submitted on or before October 1 each year.⁷ Pursuant to this revision, § 11-1006(g) of the Criminal Procedure Article requires the Office to submit a report to the General Assembly by October 1 each year as it relates to programs for survivors of homicide victims.

¹ Maryland General Assembly. (2014). [*Chapter 223 \(House Bill 355\), Criminal Procedure - Programs for Survivors of Homicide Victims*](#).

² Ibid.

³ Ibid

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Maryland General Assembly. (2015). [*Chapter 58 \(House Bill 67\), General Assembly - Mandated Reports by State Agencies*](#).

Survivors of Homicide Grant

Pursuant to Chapter 223 of 2014, the Office established the Survivors of Homicide Grant (SOHG) program which serves as a grant funding source, through the State’s annual budget, and is administered by the Office. Through its program, funds are available to public or private nonprofit organizations (“subrecipients”) to operate programs for survivors of homicide victims.

The primary purpose of this program is to establish and expand programs to address the specific needs of survivors of homicide victims. Funds are used to assist subrecipients in providing victim assistance, advocacy, support, and other coordinated justice system responses, and to ensure survivors of homicide victims are able to exercise their rights entitled by law.

Awarded funds help subrecipients provide comprehensive services to meet the specific needs of survivors of homicide in ways not otherwise covered by the Maryland Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB). These services include, but are not limited to, providing or facilitating referrals to appropriate counseling, legal, mental health, and advocacy services for survivors of homicide victims including specialized support services to adult and minor survivors of homicide victims; and providing a toll-free telephone number and assistance to exercise the rights to which the survivors are entitled by law.

Grant Awards

In FY 2019, the annual State budget provided \$500,000 in general funds for the SOHG program. Through this program, the Office made funding available to state and local government agencies, as well as non-profit, non-governmental victim services programs to include faith-based and community organizations. In FY 2019, the Office awarded the following SOHG programs to assist subrecipients in providing victim assistance, advocacy, support, and other coordinated justice system responses, and to ensure survivors of homicide victims were able to exercise their rights entitled by law (*as illustrated below and on the following pages*).

Award	Award Amount	Project Title	Implementing Organization	Jurisdiction	Project Summary
SOHG-2019-0001	\$15,717	First Circuit Homicide Survivors Support	Life Crisis Center, Inc.	Wicomico, Worcester, Somerset Counties	The program assisted homicide victims during and after the investigation and prosecution of perpetrators. It also offered a crisis hotline, mental health support and training, and notification support for law enforcement. Program funds provided personnel support.

SOHG-2019-0002	\$26,000	Survivors of Homicide Restoration Services	Generations Family Services, Inc.	Baltimore City	The program provided grief counseling services, information and referrals, and service coordination to survivors of homicide in Baltimore City. Program funds provided personnel support and other expenses.
SOHG-2019-0003	\$30,000	Child Survivors of Homicide Outreach Program	Baltimore Child Abuse Center, Inc.	Baltimore City	The program provided child survivors of homicide with immediate resources to promote family stabilization and follow-up services to support them in obtaining justice and healing; assisted law enforcement in the collection of evidence; and provided outreach to victims, victim service providers, and the community through awareness and training. Program funds provided personnel support, contractual services, and other expenses.
SOHG-2019-0004	\$50,604	Family Bereavement Center	Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City	Baltimore City	The program offered support groups, court accompaniment and court escort services, information and referrals, and liaison services to members of the criminal justice system. Program funds provided personnel support, operating expenses, and equipment.
SOHG-2019-0005	\$17,000	Victim Services Specialist	Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) - Maryland, State Office	Statewide	The program provided direct support services to victims affected by the sudden, violent death, and/or an injury of a loved one caused by an impaired driving crash. It offered comprehensive services consisting of a detailed assessment of the victim's needs, empathetic listening and emotional support, referral services, opportunity to participate in the criminal justice process; and support information for the family members who are directly affected as requested by the victim. Program funds provided personnel support.
SOHG-2019-0006	\$72,014	Comprehensive Services to Survivors of Homicide	Community Advocates for Family & Youth	Prince George's County	The program provided home intervention services from a multi-disciplined team, long-term solutions through advocacy with human service agencies, support groups, and access to mental health services and community education to residents impacted by homicide. Program funds provided personnel support, operating, and travel expenses.
SOHG-2019-0007	\$39,277	Expanding Access to Counseling for Survivors of Homicide	Pro Bono Counseling Project, Inc.	Baltimore County	The program linked underserved, homicide survivors, and witnesses to licensed mental health providers who volunteered their time to provide counseling services, referrals and other resources to clients. Program funds provided personnel support and other expenses.
SOHG-2019-0008	\$9,350	Trauma Informed Care	Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program of Baltimore, Inc.	Baltimore City	The program provided volunteers the opportunity to assist abused or neglected children who were in foster care due to the homicide of a family member. It provided advocacy services and promoted comprehensive information gathering in a written and objective court report. Program

					funds provided personnel support, contractual services, and travel expenses.
SOHG-2019-0009	\$25,665	Comprehensive Services to Survivors of Homicide	YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County	Anne Arundel County	The program provided comprehensive support services including legal representation, resource/referral coordination to licensed therapy, and administrative support to adult and child survivors of homicide victims. Program funds provided personnel support and other expenses.
SOHG-2019-0010	\$12,500	Centralized Information Sharing Network for Survivors of Homicide	Cold Truth, Inc.	Montgomery County	The program helped identify survivors of homicide and connected them with a centralized network where they received support and services. Program funds provided personnel support.
SOHG-2019-0011	\$101,277	Multi-site Homicide Transformation Project	Roberta's House, Inc.	Baltimore City	The program provided specialized support services to homicide survivors with grief support by facilitating healthy, adaptive coping, and healing mechanisms. Program funds provided personnel support, operating expenses, and contractual services.
SOHG-2019-0012	\$100,596	Expansion of the Statewide Survivor Network	Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc.	Statewide	The program provided family members of homicide victims a toll-free contact line and on-line intake access for services to include counseling, legal services, mental health, and advocacy services with specialized support to adult and minor survivors. Program funds provided personnel support, travel, and other expenses.
Total	\$500,000				